

## **News Release**

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## Preliminary flood insurance rate maps available for viewing

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided the County of Kaua'i with preliminary copies of updates to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Kaua'i County. This public consultation is part of a federal process mandated by FEMA.

The Preliminary FIRMs are available for viewing at the Kaua'i County Department of Public Works Engineering Offices at 4444 Rice Street suite 175 in Līhu'e. Digital copies of the FIRM and FIS are available for viewing at <a href="http://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata">http://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata</a> or <a href="http://gis.hawaiinfip.org/fhat">http://gis.hawaiinfip.org/fhat</a>.

The preliminary FIRM has been updated to include previous letters of map changes that had been issued by FEMA since the last FIRM update in 2010. The preliminary FIRM also has been updated to show areas behind the Waimea and Hanapēpē levees as not providing protection from a 100-year flood. These levees occur on FIRM panels 1500020256G, 1500020259G, and 1500020287G.

Also mandated by FEMA consultation requirements, representatives from FEMA and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources will be presenting this information during a series of community meetings at the 'Ele'ele School Cafeteria on May 21, from 6 to 8 p.m.; and the Waimea Neighborhood Center on May 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. County officials will also be present. The updated FIRM is expected to become effective in mid-2020.

Anyone with questions may contact the County Flood Plain Manager Stanford Iwamoto at 241-4896 or <a href="mailto:siwamoto@kauai.gov">siwamoto@kauai.gov</a>.

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